



NOTES FROM NINE-FIFTEEN

VOLUME 1 , ISSUE 3 FALL 2008

DEAR FRIENDS

Dear Friends,

As we celebrate the State and Consumer Services Agency's 47th birthday, I am reminded of the rich legacy of achievement that this agency holds. From enforcing civil rights, expanding the "green" movement, to overseeing the professional licenses of nearly 2 million Californians, SCSA continues to shine. Our accomplishments have been achieved together, and I know that our agency is home to some of the most outstanding, productive employees in state government.

You have all proved to be exceptionally resilient, as I know this has been a long summer with a very late budget. We have all adapted and I have been deeply impressed with how each department came together to continue serving Californians with integrity and hard work.

As the Holiday season approaches, I am looking forward to celebrating a year of tremendous success. Thanks to your dedication, this year our agency has created the first-in-the-nation Green Building Standards, reached out to thousands of homeowners to help them avoid foreclosure, provided advocacy to millions of consumers about information and privacy protection, and helped reduce state government's carbon footprint. These are just a snapshot of the amazing successes our agency has attained in 2008, and the year isn't over yet! I am proud to be part of this team and I cannot wait to see what we will achieve next.

Happy Holidays,

DCA CREATES A PACT

The Department of Consumer Affairs has been hard at work on the inaugural Professionals Achieving Summit to be held in Los Angeles, November 18-21. For the first time in California's history, the state's board, commission and bureau members will meet with consumer advocates, law enforcement and stakeholders all under the same roof. The Summit will provide an unprece-

dented opportunity for these leaders to exchange ideas, engage in training and hold panel discussions on how to better protect California's consumers. Among the issues that will be addressed are possible workforce shortages, the current value of California professional licenses, and enhancing consumer protections.



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Winner of the 2008 "Most Creative Cake" Award. The Caramel Apple Spice Cake took the shape of a real caramel apple.



Winner of the 2008 "Best in Show Cake" Award. VCGCB's own Sandy Saunders created this delicious pink and floral designed dessert.

"I'M SO IMPRESSED WITH THE VCGCB STAFF'S GENEROSITY. BY CONTRIBUTING 62 BEAUTIFUL AND CREATIVE CAKES TO THIS YEAR'S CAKE AUCTION, WE RAISED \$1259.00."
--JULIE NAUMAN,
VCGCB EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

YOU CAN HAVE YOUR CAKE AND....

The California State Employees' Charitable Campaign has been supporting important charities for over 50 years. And this year is no different.

Each department has been successfully kicking off their own campaigns with different fundraisers and great activities.

The Victim Compensation and Government Claims

Board held their own unique event by auctioning off over 60 cakes on October 1.

While some brought creations from their home kitchens and others relied on the expertise of local bakeries, the total cake sales netted the CSECC campaign \$1,259.00. This year's auction saw interesting highlights between the bidding wars and the fiercely

competitive inaugural cake awards. Best in Show went to VCGCB's Sandy Saunders with a pink, floral -designed confection and the Italian Cookie Cake Tree was the bestseller at \$92.00. Congratulations VCGCB!

90 DAYS OF VESPA...ER...HOPE

Agency's very own chief council Leslie Lopez caught up with a downtown Sacramento-area Regional Transit bus in August to snap this issue's winning 90 Days of Hope bus ad photo. Those of us familiar with our "Scootergirl" know having Leslie's 2004 pearl white Vespa in her photo is as good as her smiling face. Congratulations Leslie! You are this issue's winner.

The 90 Days of Hope campaign is an ongoing multi-department effort to help homeowners avoid foreclosure . Homeowners can visit www.yourhome.ca.gov or www.sucasa.ca.gov for more information.

We're looking for more photos to publish. Submit your photo with the 90 Days of Hope campaign banner or billboard to erin.shaw@scsa.ca.gov.



A FEW WORDS WITH MARK WEATHERFORD

MARK WEATHERFORD IS THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION SECURITY AND PRIVACY PROTECTION'S NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Q: What is one of your favorite weekend activities?

A: Running - I recently ran the San Diego Rock-N-Roll marathon, the "World Famous Marine Corps Mud Run" and the 2008 Wild West Relay which is a 192 mile, 12 person relay race in Colorado through the mountains. I also enjoy backpacking and snowboarding.

Q: What was your very first impression of Sacramento?

A: I'm a native northern Californian but left when I joined the Navy in 1975. A lot has changed since then but I remember as a kid going to the fair at CalExpo and visiting Sutter's Fort and the Sacramento Zoo in elementary school. My returning impression is that, while Sacramento has changed and grown a lot, it still has a bit of the small town atmosphere.

Q: What has been one of your most fulfilling moments as a public servant?

A: There have been quite a few, which is probably one of the reasons I keep coming back to the public sector. I love the fact that in my job as an information security professional, what I do impacts the entire organization including my state employee colleagues as

well as the general citizenry.

One of the great things about public service is the dedication and devotion of the people we work with. In the technology business, most people could probably find higher paying jobs in the private sector but choose instead to work for the public. There's a reason for that and it says a lot about their commitment. In most of the public sector organizations I've worked in, there are never enough resources to do all of the things we want and need to do. That forces us to be creative and when IT people get creative, sometimes you get some real magic. In my last role as the Colorado Chief Information Security Officer, I had some of the most talented people I've ever known and we were able to build a world class information security organization on a shoe-string budget. It wasn't easy and the credit goes entirely to my staff for their ability to come up with imaginative ideas...all I had to do was give them the latitude to try new things and stay out of the way while fanning the flames.



"...WHEN IT PEOPLE GET CREATIVE, SOMETIMES YOU GET SOME REAL MAGIC."

— MARK WEATHERFORD, OISPP EXECUTIVE OFFICER

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH



VCGCB Exhibit Booth at the *Statewide Day of Awareness*

Governor Schwarzenegger has proclaimed the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

On October 1, the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board participated in the third annual *Statewide Day of Awareness - Californians Uniting to End Domestic Violence* event at the State Capitol. The event was sponsored by the California Partnership to

End Domestic Violence and featured speakers on the west steps of the State Capitol in Sacramento. Alongside other state agencies that provide crime victim assistance. Many non-profit organizations are hosting a variety of awareness activities in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness month should you like to participate or volunteer. Contact VCGCB for more information.



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SECRETARY MARIN IS CHARMED BY HOMER SIMPSON AT THE 26TH ANNUAL BORDER GOVERNORS CONFERENCE.

COMING TOGETHER: THE BORDER GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE

The XXVI Border Governors Conference, the largest bi-national conference to address critical border issues that face the United States and Mexico, was held in Hollywood, California from August 13-15, 2008.

This year, the conference was hosted by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and featured numerous panels on important issues such as human trafficking, building green economies, and increasing the border states' capacity to increase technological resources.

Secretary Marin chaired the Science and Technology worktable that promoted the border region's potential to become an innovative and research-centered powerhouse. The worktable is committed to identifying research laboratories in the Border Region and expanding their research efforts, as well as creating a network of information technology service vendors and customers.

The event also featured the Green Tech Expo where environmentally-friendly businesses showcased their products and services.



GOVERNOR SCHWARZENEGGER OPENS THE GREEN TECH EXPO ALONGSIDE SECRETARY MARIN AND CALEPA SECRETARY LINDA ADAMS.

